

Negro Workers Should Join Workers Party

By GEORGE PADMORE.

THE Workers (Communist) Party of America is a section of a great international working class movement, which embraces in its ranks the oppressed and exploited workers of all nations, countries and races—whites, Negroes, Chinese, Indians, etc.

Communism knows no color line. It is the bitter foe of race prejudice, which is fostered by the capitalist class in order to keep the white and Negro workers apart, so as to be able to exploit both groups alike. Communists therefore advocate the doctrine of racial equality, and fight militantly for the full social, political and economic rights of all races and peoples, irrespective of the colors of their skins.

Wherever capitalism exists, race prejudice is the order of the day. In America, the ruling class—the Rockefellers, Morgans, Fords, Mellons, Coolidges, Hoovers, and the Al Smiths—give their sanction to this disgraceful practice and permit it to exist because it enables them to play one group against the other—thereby distracting the minds of the workers from their horrible conditions.

The same method of "divide and rule" is adopted by the British imperialists in India and other colonial possessions. In the east the British overlords play the India workers against the Mohammedans and thereby keep them divided and weak. In the West Indies and Africa the imperialists create a mulatto caste and use this as a buffer class to keep the large masses fighting among themselves, while the masters rob them of their lands and exploit their labor power. There is only one way of abolishing race prejudice and that is by abolishing capitalism, which creates and fosters this social disease. Both the white and colored workers must get wise to these tricks of the master class and unite to defeat their oppressors. The sooner workers realize that their common interest lies in uniting into a powerful labor movement, under the revolutionary leadership of the Communist Party, the sooner will they be able to eman-

Communists Fight for Full Social, Political and Economic Rights of All Races and Peoples

cipate themselves from the yoke of wage slavery.

Labor Misleaders.

In this "dirty game of "divide and rule," the bosses are ably assisted by such lackeys as William Green, Matt Woll, John Lewis, Frank Morrison, who, by their narrow craft policy and Negro-hating attitude, keep Negro workers out of the unions, thus leaving them to be used as scabs against their white brothers.

The Communists, on the other hand, fight vigilantly against this shameful practice, and demand admission of Negro workers into the ranks of organized labor on an equal basis with the whites.

A Negro miner named William Boyce was elected vice-president of the newly organized mine union at Pittsburgh. This is the first time in the history of the labor movement in America that a Negro has been elected to such an office, which has jurisdiction over hundreds of thousands of both white and Negro miners. This is an indication of a new trend in the left wing labor movement.

Champions of Freedom.

The Communist Party is the only political organization in the United States which champions the cause of the 12 million Negroes, the most exploited section of the American working class. Unlike all other parties, republicans, democrats and socialists, the Communists actually engage in a genuine struggle to emancipate the Negro workers from their present condition of destitution and degradation.

The Party Platform.

The Workers (Communist) Party at its National Nominating Convention, not only had the largest delegation of Negro workers assembled on such an occasion in the history of America, but drew up and adopted a plank on the Negro question which is the most far-reaching and historic

document by a political party in this country in the interests of the Negro workers. The Negro delegates were active participants in the convention, and were nominated to office on various state tickets.

Lovett Fort-Whitman was named for comptroller of the state of New York; Richard B. Moore for congress from the 21st congressional district in Harlem; Edward Welsh for assemblyman in the same district. Other Negroes are representing the Party on its working class program in other states.

The true test of the honesty and sincerity of a political party is what it does, not merely what it professes, and in this respect the Workers (Communist) Party openly lives up to its program as being the vanguard of the entire working class, irrespective of race, color, or creed.

The following are some of the demands, embodied in the program of the party:

The abolition of race discrimination, segregation of Negroes, Jim Crow laws, laws which disfranchise Negroes, which forbid intermarriage, which prevent Negro children from attending public schools. They demand a federal law against lynching, equal opportunity for Negroes and equal pay, abolition of all restrictions in trade unions against Negro membership, and abolition of the convict lease system and the chain gang, and of discriminatory practices in courts.

Fight Against Imperialism.

The Communists are the only ones who oppose and struggle against imperialism, which means the enslavement of the colonial peoples in China, India, Africa, Latin America, and other parts of the world. They openly adopt methods to prevent capitalists of their own countries from carrying out their oppressive schemes to rob the so-called "backward" peoples of their

freedom. It was the Communists of France, led by Doriot, who conducted a heroic struggle against the French imperialist war on the Rifian tribes in Morocco. Doriot and hundreds of French workers were arrested and imprisoned. The same thing recently happened here in America. On July 3, 1928, a group of Communists demonstrated in an anti-imperialist demonstration in Wall St., the center of the banking interests of America. The demonstrators carried banners carrying such slogans as "Freedom for Black Haiti and Liberia," "Withdraw the Marines From Nicaragua and China," "Liberty for the Philippines, Porto Rico and Cuba." These banners were torn down by the Tammany Hall police and the workers were arrested and carried before a capitalist judge who did the bidding of his political masters by sentencing them to jail.

"Daily" Leads Fight.

Among the leaders was the editor of the Daily Worker. This paper, unlike the capitalist sheets, is always on the side of the Negroes, for it realizes that the capitalist oppressors are always out to slander the Negro race in order to keep them on a servile and degraded position. This is how the Communists show their real leadership by actively participating in the every-day struggles of the workers and the oppressed colonial masses, while the republicans, democrats and socialists oppose them and do all in their power to rob and exploit the working class.

Negro workers must wake up and realize that their place is with the Communists—the friends and champions of their race, and not with the republicans and democrats, who oppress the workers, black as well as white in America. Every honest Negro who is devoted to the uplift of his race and class, and desires the freedom of his people at home and abroad, should join the Workers (Communist) Party which unites the workers and poor farmers of all races and colors to fight against the capitalists-imperialists.